

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SAA-01 PM-05 NSC-05
SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01
ICA-11 ACDA-12 OMB-01 /096 W
-----109979 280039Z /21

R 271436Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5087
INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 DAKAR 5686

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP
SUBJECT: MOOSE-BADDOU MEETING

SUMMARY: JULY 24, ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE CALLED ON MOROCCAN STATE SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS. MORE THAN HALF THE SESSION WAS DEVOTED TO A MOROCCAN PRESENTATION OF ITS HISTORICAL AND JURIDICAL POSITION IN THE WESTERN SAHARA. MOOSE BRIEFLY SUMMARIZED U.S. VIEWS ON SITUATION IN ZAIRE, SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THE HORN. END SUMMARY.

1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE CALLED ON MOROCCAN STATE SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, BADDOU ON JULY 24 ACCOMPANIED BY AF STAFF ASSISTANT, AF/W DIRECTOR AND RABAT DCM. MOROCCAN SIDE WAS COMPOSED OF MFA SEC GEN
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BENNNANI AND ACTING CHIEFS OF THE MFA'S AMERICAN AND AFRICAN BUREAUS. MOROCCAN SIDE TOOK EXTENSIVE NOTES WHICH WILL CLEARLY FORM BASIS FOR REPORT TO KING HASSAN.

2. WESTERN SAHARA: FOLLOWING INITIAL COURTESIES
BADDOU MADE 45-MINUTE PRESENTATION OF HISTORICAL

AND JURIDICAL BACKGROUND OF MOROCCAN POSITION IN SAHARAN DISPUTE. HE EMPHASIZED THAT: (A) MOROCCO WAS A STATE WITH HISTORICAL AND WELL-RECOGNIZED FRONTIERS, (B) A CONSTANT THEME OF MOROCCAN HISTORY, SINCE INDEPENDENCE, HAD BEEN THE RECOVERY OF ALIENATED TERRITORY IN ORDER TO RESTORE ITS HISTORIC FRONTIERS; (C) MOROCCO HAD BEEN THE FIRST TO PROPOSE (TO SPAIN) SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE WESTERN SAHARA; (D) BOUMEDINE HAD REVERSED HIMSELF, AND HIS ORIGINAL SUPPORT FOR MOROCCAN/MAURITANIAN RECOVERY OF THE SAHARA HAD NOW BECOME OPPOSITION, AND (E) IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE, AS A PRACTICAL MATTER, TO FIND, MUCH LESS TO POLL, THE SAHARAOUIS REGARDING THEIR FUTURE. HE RIDICULED BOUMEDIENE'S CLAIM THAT THERE WERE 700,000 SAHARAOUI REFUGEES IN ALGIERS, NOTING THAT THE LAST SPANISH CENSUS HAD PUT THE TOTAL SAHARAOUI POPULATION AT 73,000.

3. LATER IN CONVERSATION, MOOSE ASKED ABOUT CURRENT MOROCCAN RELATIONS WITH MAURITANIA. BADDOU REFERRED VAGUELY TO A "CERTAIN CONTINUITY" IN THESE RELATIONS. MOOSE ASKED WHETHER THE OAU AD HOC COMMITTEE OF WISEMEN WOULD BE THE FOCAL POINT OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY REGARDING THE WESTERN SAHARA FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. BADDOU REPLIED BY DESCRIBING MOROCCAN RELATIONS WITH ALGERIA, SAYING THAT FOR THE TIME BEING MOROCCO AND ALGERIA

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"SPOKE DIFFERENT LANGUAGES." ALGERIA SPEAKS OF DEFINING THE THE SAHARAOUI PEOPLE, AND OF SELF-DETERMINATION. AS FAR AS MOROCCO IS CONCERNED, THE TERRITORY IS DECOLONIZED AND HAS BEEN RECOVERED. THE PROBLEM, SAID BADDOU, IS SIMPLY ONE OF AGGRESSION AGAINST MOROCCO AND INFRINGEMENT OF MOROCCAN SOVEREIGNTY. BADDOU EMPHASIZED UNITY OF MOROCCAN SUPPORT FOR THE ANNEXATION OF THE SAHARA. HE CONTRASTED THIS WITH "STRONG OPPOSITION" IN ALGERIA TO THE WAR AND CLAIMED THAT ALGERIA WAS SUFFERING ECONOMICALLY AS A RESULT.

4. MOROCCAN SUPPORT FOR U.S.: MOOSE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR MOROCCAN SUPPORT FOR U.S. IN THE MIDDLE EAST. HE ALSO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR MOROCCO'S ROLE IN AFRICA, ESPECIALLY IN ZAIRE.

5. ZAIRE: MOOSE SAID MOROCCO TROOPS IN ZAIRE PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE AND CONTRIBUTE TO STABILITY IN THE AREA. HE EXPRESSED PLEASURE THAT MOROCCO HAD RECOGNIZED THE NECESSITY FOR PROMPT U.S. ACTION IN SUPPORT OF OTHER NATIONS IN ZAIRE. HE EMPHASIZED THE NECESSITY TO WORK THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS TO STABILIZE THE

ANGOLA-ZAIRE FRONTIER AND THUS AVOID A THIRD INVASION OF SHABA. HE NOTED THAT U.S. HAD PLAYED A DIRECT ROLE IN THE BRAZZAVILLE ACCORD AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT, IF RATIFIED BY THE AFRICAN STATES, IT COULD PRODUCE AN AGREEMENT THAT WOULD ALLOW MOROCCO TO WITHDRAW FROM ZAIRE.

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6. SOUTHERN AFRICA: MOOSE BRIEFLY SUMMARIZED RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN NAMIBIA AND U.S. EFFORTS TO WORK THROUGH THE FRONT LINE STATES TO EXCLUDE CUBAN AND RUSSIAN INTERVENTION. HE SUMMARIZED U.S. STRATEGY FOR DEALING WITH SOVIETS AND CUBANS IN AFRICA AS ONE OF HELPING AFRICAN STATES TO FIND SOLUTIONS IN TO THEIR PROBLEMS IN ORDER TO PREVENT RUSSIAN AND CUBAN EXPLOITATION OF SPECIFIC SITUATIONS.

7. THE HORN: MOOSE DESCRIBED HIS VISIT TO SOMALIA AND HIS STATEMENT TO PRESIDENT SIAD THAT IF SOMALIA LIVED IN PEACE WITH ITS NEIGHBORS THE U.S. WOULD PROVIDE SOME DEFENSIVE ARMS. HE NOTED U.S. CONCERN REGARDING THE RISING LEVEL OF ACTIVITY OF THE WESTERN SAHARIA LIBERATION FRONT AND NOTED THAT, IF IT CONTINUED,

OTHER AFRICAN STATES WOULD SYMPATHIZE WITH ETHIOPIA.
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HE NOTED THAT THERE WERE POSSIBLE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE SOVIETS AND CUBANS AND THE ETHIOPIA GOVERNMENT RISING FROM THE ELF AND EPLF AGREEMENT AT BEIRUT TO SEEK NEGOTIATIONS WITH NO PRE-CONDITIONS. HE COMMENTED THAT WHILE THE CUBAN AND RUSSIANS WOULD PREFER A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION, THE DERGUE REGARDING THE FUTURE GOVERNMENT OF ETHIOPIA. THE SOVIETS AND CUBANS PREFER A MASS PARTY AND THE DERGUE, A MORE RESTRICTED MILITARY GOVERNMENT. 8. IN CONCLUSION, BADDU AND MOOSE AGREED ON THE USEFULNESS OF EXCHANGES BETWEEN U.S. AND MOROCCAN GOVERNMENTS AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE DISCUSSION OF AFRICA'S PROBLEMS WOULD CONTINUE. COHEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978DAKAR05686
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780309-0192
Format: TEL
From: DAKAR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780715/aaaaampv.tel
Line Count: 189
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 5541d76b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1871584
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MOOSE-BADDOU MEETING SUMMARY: JULY 24, ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE CALLED ON MOROCCAN STATE SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.
TAGS: OVIP, US, SG, (MOOSE, RICHARD), (BADDOU, ABDERRAHMANE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5541d76b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014